



REDCOM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

July 8, 2021 – @ 2:00PM

Join by phone 1-323-886-6897 ID: 384 679 37#

or Email KT.McNulty@REDCOM-Fire.org to request web link

Director's Present:

Steve Akre - Chair

Mark Heine - Vice Chair

Bryan Cleaver - Secretary

Dave Crowl (Replacing David Caley)

Jason Boaz

Scott Westrope

Sundari Mase (arrived late)

Others Present:

KT McNulty

Brenda Bacigalupi

Chad Costa

Matthew Gloeckner

Brain Henricksen

Kenneth Reese

Ambrose Stevens

Evonne Stevens

Steve Suter

Tambra Curtis

Bobbi Rivera

Notice: Copies of additional materials provided to the Board of Directors for information on agenda items are available at the REDCOM fire & EMS 9-1-1 Center.

1. Call to Order Made by Steve Akre at 14:00

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve made by Jason Boaz, second Mark Heine – Discussion - No further comments - Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of the March 25, 2021 REDCOM Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.
Motion to approve made by Jason Boaz, second Scott Westrope – Discussion -
No further comments - Approved unanimously

4. Public Comment Period

In this time-period, anyone from the public may address the REDCOM Board of Directors regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, but which is not on today's agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation.

None

No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any items presented at this time.

5. New Business

- a) Presentation of the FY 20-21 Q4 Director's report –

Operational Report

KT McNulty - REDCOM continues to maintain Accredited Center of Excellence (ACE) compliance standards for both Emergency Medical Dispatch and Emergency Fire Dispatch disciplines. As for staffing, all 3 upper management positions remain filled. 3 out of 4 Supervisor positions are filled. The 4th position is being covered by a Relief Supervisor until a new Supervisor is hired. That requisition went out this week. All Fulltime Dispatchers positions are filled. All Part Time Dispatchers positions are filled. Fire Season Shift line was opened in mid-May and will remain open until the end of fire season.

Jason Boaz - Can you reminded me the hours again for the fire shift?

KT McNulty -7 days a week and it is 9am-9pm

Jason Boaz - Excellent, Thanks, and there are two different people filling that position?

KT McNulty - It is a mix of full-timers and part-timers.

Jason Boaz - So there is not any one person assigned specify to that position.

Kt McNulty- No, but it is consistency getting filled.

KT McNulty - Strategic Planning: REDCOM expansion project is an agenda item for discussion. Exploration of providing dispatch services to Marin County: Agenda item for discussion and they are both old businesses. REDCOM's Communication van: The communication van has been licensed and is insured. We are currently working on reconnecting the house power supply with a new battery. Once that work is completed, we can reconnect the communication equipment. At that point the van will then be fully functional just not pretty. It will still need to get it painted or wrapped. I am working on getting some quotes on that. I did look at a couple of different quotes for the replacement chassis for the van. We are looking at about \$70k-\$85k for a brand-new van. I think a used vehicle might be a better option for our budget. I have not looked into that yet. We have hopefully found a storage solution at its old location at the Sonoma County Airport.

Jason Boaz - As far as storing the vehicle, is that the ideal location for it? Are we interesting in looking for alternate locations?

Kt McNulty - I think that it is a convenient location. It is centralized. It is not too far from REDCOM and it is not too far from the Managers being able to get it. It is under a roof which was our number one ask and the other ask was shore power. I am happy with it being there and they are not charging us.

Jason Boaz - Cool

KT McNulty -Technology update: TangoTango - Project is complete on REDCOM's side. There is a cellular issue on the vendors' end that they are working on getting it fixed.

Pulse Point AED - We are continuing to work with the Pulse Point AEDS. There is currently 233 verified AEDS in Sonoma County and 447 pending verification in Sonoma County. Those 447 that are pending verification will not show up in the Pulse Point application if CPR is needed nearby. The districts are slowly plugging away at getting those AEDS verified.

Fire Cameras - REDCOM is continuing to work with beta testing on the artificial intelligence smoke detecting software on the existing alertwildfire.org network. For the month of June, we received approximately 150 separate smoke detection alerts and those alerts are mostly coming into REDCOM within a minute or two of the first 911 call. No alerts in June actually beat the 911's. We also didn't receive any faulty reports of smoke from the A.I. Technology. I am hoping to see some results with more rural detections right now all of detections are in centralized areas where we do have people that have good cell service and highly populated. I am hoping to start seeing detections in more rural areas.

The Tablet Command project is complete.

Mobile Responder project is complete. AMR has fully transitioned to iPad.

REDCOM Compliance: We are noticing for 911 calls starting in March going through April, May, and June that there was an up-tick in 911 calls as well as business lines calls. There was an up-tick in the overall call volume as well. We continue to be above minimum standards in both areas of Call Processing Compliance for Dispatching as well as 911 answer to dispatch time. Exception Reports continue to be consistent throughout the quarter. No major anomalies. That concludes my report.

Jason Boaz - Do you think the up-tick has to do with the re-opening the county? What was the trend last year in 2019? Are we seeing in general increase in 911 calls?

KT McNulty - I can't say for certain, but the opening of county probably did impact that somewhat. It is definitely an up-tick over the last 2 years for that time period. It is really hard to say without really digging into the data.

Jason Boaz - Can you go back to that chart I am curious to see where the tracker 2019 if you have 2019 on there.

KT McNulty - Showing Jason the chart.

Jason Boaz - It does look like an up-tick a little bit in 2019. Thank you!

KT McNulty - Welcome

Ken Reese - Jason I can add from the EMS analyst when we have looked at EMS calls, we have drummed the same conclusions from our work with Lucinda the Epidemiologist that it really is returning to normal levels. We also continue to have a relatively steady increase year after year. We certainly were down on the EMS side during COVID. It appears to be returning to normal volume which.

Jason Boaz - Thanks, that is what it's kind of looks like returning to normal with just a little bit of an up-tick each year. Pretty much as expected. Thanks

- b) Returning to in-person REDCOM Board of Directors meetings. Discussion and action to approve holding future REDCOM BOD meetings in person at Santa Rosa Fire Departments training tower.

KT McNulty - I wanted to obtain your input. Would we like to continue meeting online, return to 100% in person meetings or a mix of both?

David Crowl - I would like to have both options with travel time. It is nice to have the option to just jump on a computer and be a part of the meetings. However, I do want to meet you all in person one day.

Sundari Mase - I would like to weigh in on that one. We are seeing an increase in cases. A doubling of our case rate and the increasing of cases in the delta variant is affecting the members and we are not sure what direction this would go. It is the unvaccinated individuals that we are seeing in these cases. I would offer a more of a kind of a hybrid approach just to give people an opportunity to participate through this sort of WebEx kind of venue. I think the hybrid meeting would be best.

Steve Akre - Thank you Dr. Mase and welcome. I agree. I like having the option for those that might not feel comfortable with the ongoing COVID situation of meeting in person but also certainly understanding of travel times that some of us must make. With that being said, I would encourage us just to go back to the opportunity to meet in person I think that the meetings can be much more productive and valuable when we meet in person. The one thing that I would want to make sure is before we go into a person/hybrid type of meeting is to make sure we have the technology capabilities at the Santa Rosa Tower to be able to effectively do a hybrid meeting. Our first attempt to that with the County Chiefs did not go amazingly well. So, I think that is a critical to be able to do hybrids. Otherwise, we might as well stick with the zoom platform.

Scott Westrope - I will check on the Tower. I think it is set up for that, but I know for a fact we have our big conference room set up to handle that. That is how we do our hybrid staff meetings. I will check on the tower and we can throw some technology at it to make sure that it works. But if not, you can use our big conference room here.

Steve Akre - Thanks Scott any other comments or questions from any of the Directors?. Is everybody good with trying to a hybrid model at either the Santa Rosa Tower or Santa Rosa conference room starting at our next meeting?

Scott Westrope - I am happy with that.

Steve Akre - Anyone oppose of that approach? No Comments.
KT, you have direction on that now. Maybe you can go directly with Chief Westrope to make sure that we are good on the exact location and the technology.

KT McNulty - Sounds good.

c) Executive Director Performance review - Report out regarding the performance review process and findings

Brian Henricksen - I wanted to give everyone an update. There is a requirement in the contract with AMR to conduct a performance review process for the Executive Director. This is an annual process that we follow. What we have done in the past practice is get an AdHoc group together and have those direct discussions. We did do that earlier this year back in May 2021. Thank you to the REDCOM Board Director's that volunteered for that opportunity to provide feedback and that included Chief Boaz, Chief Heine, and Bryan Cleaver. Thank you for participating, generally we don't give a report out on the specific of that review. However, I will share openly with this group that generally positive and really, I think this is an opportunity for me to extend some appreciation and thanks to KT for her leadership over the course of the last year. I think we can all agree on one thing that the last year has been tough for everybody and it being tough at REDCOM was no exception. KT your leadership really shined through over the course of last year and that included navigating COVID but also under a horrendous fire season here obviously. You've done some innovative things that helped with your leadership. The fire season upstaffing is one of those and I would be remised not to mention the fact that despite being in a very tight quarters and a very small room where everyone is talking loudly on the phones all the time and into radios and lots of opportunities, I think for disease transmission we were able to keep the REDCOM team up there safe without a single person coming down with COVID during the entry pandemic. Big kudos there for KT as well. I will come back and do this review process for the Executive Director annually. I will come back in 6 months and ask for new volunteers. Happy to answer any questions anybody has.

Steve Aker - Thank you very much Brian for that report and compliments to you KT on your leadership. It has been a tremendous year not sure if any of us would ever except but, really appreciate your solid leadership of REDCOM through many different disasters. I do have a question or maybe more of a comment. I know that when we did the Executive Director's recruitment and we appointed KT to the position, we made a commitment as a Board to support KT with ongoing education, training to really give her the support that she needs to be able to be effective and to grow in that position. I know the last year all the challenges may not have been the best year of opportunities so to speak. I just wanted to bring that topic up again to make sure that we are providing KT with those opportunities as we can and where they are possible.

Brian Henricksen - I appreciate that comment Chief Akre. We did have that discussion as a group and the 3 Board Members that participated in that

continued to encourage REDCOM's support in that area. I will tell you AMR is also offering support for KT there. She has hit the ground running here as we come out of a lot of the COVID restrictions. We are pursuing some of those professional development opportunities including pursuing the Communication Center Manager course through Fitch and Associates and some other trade organizations throughout the state and some resources through Navigator. KT's continue involvement with Medical Priority Dispatch and their program. We are also working with KT on other opportunities for her education support for specific leadership related to financial management of REDCOM as well.

Steve Akre - Thank you Brian. I am happy to hear all those opportunities and KT hitting the ground running. Thank you. Any other comments or questions.

No response.

Steve Akre – I'd like to thank the 3 Board Members that participated in the review as well. Thank you, Brian for the report out

d) Sonoma County Grand Jury Final Report findings – Discussion and potential direction regarding REDCOM's next steps.

KK McNulty- I created somewhat of a summary of the findings just to help us all navigate. I will read the findings and then I will read the recommendations to you.

Finding #12 -The County communication network is at risk of communication tower/repeater equipment loss through delayed maintenance and failure to update obsolescent equipment, or disaster loss affecting the Sheriff's Department, city, police, fire agencies, and REDCOM.

Finding #13 - There is no backup system for the County communication towers/repeaters or for commercial cellular towers should they fail to function.

Finding #14 - The County communication towers/repeaters and cellular provider towers are not maintained and protected (including defensible space) sufficiently to ensure alerts and warnings can go out in the event of a disaster.

Finding #16 - PulsePoint is a useful tool for community groups and the public for early notification of fire activities (e.g. controlled burns, smoke). Calls dispatched through Redwood Empire Dispatch Communications (REDCOM) are updated onto Pulse Point. At this time there is no recommendations for the PulsePoint issues or is there any agencies required to respond.

Findings #17 - Residents of Cloverdale and Rohnert Park cannot receive local PulsePoint alerts because those cities do not utilize (REDCOM) for fire and medical dispatch. No Recommendations and no Department of Emergency Response is required to respond on those two items.

And for the recommendations:

Recommendation #6 - By December 31, 2021 the Sheriff's Office is to develop a plan and identify what is needed to bring the communication towers equipment /repeaters up to date to ensure during an emergency the systems function that includes legacy and end of life systems.

Recommendation #7- By March 31, 2022 the Sheriff's Office and Board of Supervisors provide funding to maintain the communication tower equipment/repeaters. Sheriff's Office is required to respond to that one.

Recommendation #8 – By June 30, 2022, The Sheriff's Office implement the plan to bring the communication tower equipment /repeaters up to date. The sheriff's Office and the Board of Supervisor are to respond to that one.

Recommendation #10 - By October 31,2021 the Sheriff's Office and Department of Emergency Management work with the Fire Agencies in the county work ensure that defensible space standards (as outlined by Cal Fire) are met for all county communication towers/repeaters and cellular provider network towers. Sheriff, DEM are required responses. Sonoma County Fire Chfs are invited to respond.

Recommendation #11 - By September 30, 2021, The Sheriff's Office and Department of Emergency Management work with the Fire Agencies in the county to define actions to take during a disaster for the protection of all County communication towers/repeaters and cellular network towers. Sonoma County Sheriff, DEM are required responses, Sonoma County Fire Chiefs are invited to respond.

Recommendation #12 - By December 31, 2021, the DEM work with cellular tower providers to ensure a plan is developed to ensure defensible space standards are implemented around each tower. Required responses DEM.

I am not sure if everyone had the opportunity to read the full report. There was a lot of focus on REDCOM's infrastructure that is tied into Law Enforcement infrastructure and to secure funding to make that happen. I will open it up any discussion.

Steve Akre - Thank you KT. Do you have any idea of the total cost it would be to upgrade all the recommendations and findings?

KT McNulty - The hard part is that they don't define the scope of that work. For the 2 and 4 upgrade that will cost \$261,000 The Oakridge upgrade which we approved that funding is \$30,000. Control 3 upgrade is \$416,000 and we have already paid \$100,000 into that.

Steve Akre - Thank you

KT McNulty - and by we, I mean REDCOM and Santa Rosa.

Steve Akre - Any other questions, comments from the board Members?

Mark Heine - I know you and I briefly chatted about this earlier today. Responding to the Grand Jury Report is Logistical thing that we must respond to certain things, and we don't have to respond to other things. But I think it connects to over all picture that has been developed on the status of the overall radio communications system for the county. I think we need to start looking at this seriously through the eyes of Directors of REDCOM and what we could push to the Board of Supervisors for starting the process looking at major overhaul. We are picking this up in conversations subjective conversation through out the fire house now at the County Chiefs level and now Fire Service Working level this morning. The area where we can't hear REDCOM anymore where the control channels are scrambled and very statically. I can speak on a personal experience living on the west side of Petaluma. I have no REDCOM reception, radio and pagers don't work. We don't even get the tones. I talked to Chief Thompson and they are having problems at their stations receiving REDCOM and sometimes on the control channels. The point being, I am seeing, as an administrator. I am seeing a lot of RED Flags pop up around. Now, I think we need to be cautious about paying attention to some of those RED Flags right now as a REDCOM Board. Whether we want to start having some serious future agendas conversation about going back and working with the counties perhaps their Fire AdHoc off of the Board of Supervisors starting some pre conversations about a major overhaul. I will leave my comments there. Thank you.

Steve Akre - Thank you Mark and yes, I think all of those are very important and valid consideration concerns that we can share as a particular experience of why we need to do these upgrades.

Bryan Cleaver - I just wanted to add to that, in reading the Grand Jury Report it wasn't clear to me which items really REDCOM is the point organization to champion. It looks like we primarily serve as more of a supportive role but obviously have a big stake in the game. I agree with Mark. I feel like we may need to, I don't know if it has to be a complete board project or sub community. I think we need to get very proactive about the pieces we feel our primary points of pursuit and those that are just supporting. I will leave it up the group too is this a Board or a Board AdHoc? I this something that may also go to the DOAG as operations? I would like to see us more of a proactive approach.

Mark Heine - I think Bryan's comments are good. Steve, I think we may have a gold opportunity here right, because we have directors such as you and me that sit as REDCOM Directors but also president of Fire Chiefs and president of the Fire Chief districts. I see a triangle coalition approach maybe it is an AdHoc from each of the 3 identities. Just a couple of members from each and sit down and look at where we think the whole thing need to go. Something comes out of it or it doesn't come out of it.

Steve Akre - Agree, I would just throw out one other opportunity potentially for just consideration in what they are pointing to the Sheriff's Office as a lead. Is that an opportunity to connect with the Sheriff's Department Leadership to do this together in a collaborative united front with the Sheriff's Department as well. Unless I am missing something, I feel that would be a position of even greater strength to approach this from.

Jason Boaz - I think the department of Emergency Management should be involved to.

Mark Heine - I think is all a great coalition that can to be put together can be solid probably would be effective down the road whatever the solution would appear to be. I just wanted to make sure that whether we are wearing our REDCOM Board, Fire Chiefs, EMS whatever hats we wear on our day-to-day work, that we do not surpass that line in the sand.

Bryan Cleaver - I would also add having that multi-disciplinary approach is not only good in terms of representing the needs of each discipline, but I think that it brings a level of expertise that may also be able to identify funding. We may see a certain component of health and medical funding that if we are leaving it to the Sheriff's Department as the lead with the Board having to make the discussion to fund or not to fund. We may need to get a little bit more creative than that and if we have Fire represent with the possible fire

grants that maybe out there and exist. Health and Medical grants that they may be able to secure. I think it is kind of two ways. Represent our interest but also bring the expertise of potential outside funding. Relying on the Board for our internal budget to accomplish this pretty sufficient task is probably not the safest approach. I think we must get more creative.

Jason Boaz - So my question then would be. Has anybody reached out to the Sheriff's Office? What I am seeing is the recommendations is really task to the Sheriff's Office for them to do. I would imagine they are already putting together a plan to do this. We just need to make sure all the right agencies are seated at the table. I agree. I think what Bryan said is probably the best way to ensure funding for this would be to work it though the Sheriff's Office and DEM and try to get funding from the Board of Supervisors. I would image that the Sheriff's Office already all over this. We just need to make sure we are involved in the conversation and I want to make sure we are not trying to do something that they are already doing.

Bryan Cleaver - KT is this truly the Sheriff's Department or does this come back to the consortium?

KT McNulty- I am not sure. I think it might have a lot to do with the Sheriff's Department TCOM being the service providers to the towers.

Bryan Cleaver- Ok

Jason Boaz- It seems like they are going to want to maintain tight control of that. But, also in the recommendation 6,7,8 and 9 they are all require responses from the Sheriff's Department. We still need to get together on this. So, I want to be clear on this KT. There is no where in there they are asking for any type of response from REDCOM?

KT McNulty- They are not

Jason Boaz - The only other thing I want to throw out perhaps for you Mark and perhaps this is for a different meeting. When we are talking about Vegetation Management protection of the infrastructure. It seems to me that would be an outstanding place to request some of the money the 37 million dollars that will coming through Sonoma County through CAL FIRE. I don't know where the proper place to have that discussion is. Maybe at the County Chiefs level if they are asking for a response anyways.

Mark Heine - Agree

Steve Akre - Really good conversation here. I think with that I would like to shift just a little bit, to say ok, so some ideas for our next steps here as a Board and Agency. I am kind of feeling like having an outreach like what you said Mark with in the County Chiefs and the districts would be good to gain support but , also having representatives from Fire, Health and Sheriff's Department all getting together would be a really good next step, unless you have a different thought?

Jason Boaz - How would you recommend us to do that? A letter from the Board of Directors' to all the involved parties?

Steve Akre - I don't know if I would go that formal necessary right away. I don't know. Just having KT reach out to contacts in the Sheriff's Department and try to set up meeting with Sheriff's Department with a couple of members of our Board representatives from Public Health and get us all in the same room or a Zoom and be able to start talking about this and what our collective approach might be.

Bryan Cleaver - If I may I ask the group. Is there an earlier step that is much more about the understanding of these recommendations of the nuts and bolts of these recommendations that might involve a more operational level with a report back to the Board for any directions, support or do we need to sort of dig down to that level of detail? Which I am completely willing to do I just know that I'm not personally a radio expert and I know that we have the experts that already exist and understand this. This is just a question.

KT McNulty - I have all the specs that need to happen on the REDCOM side. However, there is no way of knowing from the Grand Jury side what exactly the were looking at when they made the recommendations.

Bryan Cleaver - Based on your understanding what you do see as, I fill like you have much better handle on this then I personally do and maybe the other Board Members even understand it better than myself. Do you have sort of list of priority's that you think we need to jump on and acknowledge today to support this and move forward?

KT McNulty - Priorities as far as projects, you mean?

Bryan Cleaver - Yes, projects, or support. Where do we need to go next?

KT McNulty - The next thing that needs to happen is upgrading Control 2 and 4. It is in a stable environment right now, but the equipment is at end of life. It's not breaking down and there are no reported problems, but it is due for end-of-life cycle.

Bryan Cleaver - Ok, in terms of leadership and responding on behalf of REDCOM me as the Board. Where do we go next? Is it meeting with the Sheriff's Department, DEM? Particularly if they are planning some action at the Board of Supervisors. We would want to participate in that. Is that where we go next?

KT McNulty – For recommendation #6 which is due by December 31, 2021. Is that the Sheriff's Office will develop a plan.

Steve Akre - We certainly don't want to be late to that conversation.

Bryan Cleaver - We certainly want to be included in that. Is it best to appoint a few Board Members to take the lead on this project to initiate the conversation with the Sheriff's Department and DEM?

KT McNulty – Myself and a couple of the Board Members would be appropriate.

Bryan Cleaver - I am more than willing to participate. I don't know if I am the right person given my sort of lack of expertise. But I am also willing to learn and ramp up.

Steve Akre - Thank you Bryan. There is some value acknowledging and I will acknowledge the same short coming. I am not a radio head either. I think you added some value and addition to being a REDCOM Board Member. You can also speak from within Public Health as well. I think that is a very important component of this conversation.

Mark Heine - I am happy to help serve on that if you like. By no means I am not a radio expert either. But I was on the team that put the MIRA system together in Marin a few years ago. I do have a little bit of background that I can offer.

Steve Akre - I think that would be great. Any other Board Member comments or interest?

Sundari Mase - I am happy to support this effort in anyway. Bryan is in Public Health and I represent Public Health as well. But I am defiantly not an expert in any of these areas. I am happy to help as needed.

Steve Akre - Thank you Dr. Mase. I appreciate that. I would say unless we have other comments. I would move to a point Bryan Cleaver and Mark Heine Director's to an AdHoc team. To work with KT and the Sheriff's Department and DEM on a strategy for radio improvements.

KT McNulty - Thank you.

Steve Akre - Anyone oppose those two being on the AdHoc?

No response.

Steve Akre – KT, I think you have some direction is that sufficient for you to move forward?

KT McNulty - Yes, Thank you.

Steve Akre - Thank you very much Bryan and Mark for your willingness to serve in that capacity much appreciated. I know as we will include the Chief Association, District Association and Public Health DR. Mase. For a board and as strong collation we can put together to really make this happen. With that did Bobbi make it on the line KT?

KT McNulty - She did

Steve Akre - Moving on to item 5E.

- e) Fire and Ambulance Districts' dispatch fees not covered by TOT funds - Fire and Ambulance Districts' dispatch fees not covered by Sonoma County's Transient Occupancy Tax funds for FY 20/21 in the amount of \$8,533.45 and for 21/22 in the amount of \$166,595. Dispatch fees exceeded the available \$900,000 per fiscal year. Discussion and potential direction to address funding gap.

KT McNulty - Steve said everything perfectly. The funds are not to exceed \$900,000 per year. Bobbi Lovold has proposed breaking that up with our current REDCOM fees model. This is just for the districts. With that model this is how the numbers would shake out per each district. Am I missing anything Bobbi?

Bobbi Rivera - That is pretty much it. Your percentages would be slightly different for these members then their percentages included with everyone else. It would make more sense to break it out just based on the fees for these members. We can look at it differently if this doesn't make sense to everyone else.

Steve Aker- Anything else KT? Before I open it up to the board?

KT McNulty - Not from me.

Steve Aker - I guess what we got is the \$8,000 from last years is not a sufficient sum for us to absorb, but obviously the \$113,000 short fall. I thought it was more than that \$160,000.

KT McNulty - Bobbi is that correct the \$113,000 I had an email that had \$166,595?

Bobbi Rivera - I think this is the total let me pull it up. I am not in my office now. I am pretty sure the \$113,000 is correct I am checking to make sure.

Steve Akre - Regardless we should definitely confirm which number is accurate but either way it is still it is a sufficient sum for us to absorb and I guess I kinda ask the question. I don't know how much opportunity there may be to go back to the county. The intent of it was to cover the dispatch fees. I am not feeling like there is a lot of opportunity for the county to follow up with that intent. I think it is going to be a hard number game with them. I welcome anybody else's or other directors' comments on how to best approach this.

Bryan Cleave - I would like to jump in. I would ask my Chief colleagues on this board. I believe you are right, this is going to be a challenge either way. We are going to be asking the districts to contribute the increase portion directly. With the Boards continued commitment to the \$900,000 and that has to be weighed against the potential success to go back to the Board to have this increased by \$100,000 now exceeding a million dollars in allocation. Do you as my Chief Colleagues have sense of impact these numbers would have on our districts?

Mark Heine - That is a great question. You know at the Chiefs level through our Fire Services working group AdHoc. We are in deep discussion with the county about fire service funding needs right now. I think I can say with pretty good assurance you won't see another penny out of the County of Sonoma towards REDCOM fees or any of these agencies. In fact, there is no over

whelming desire for the sales tax to pass next summer on the ballot that the fees come out of the sales tax measure. That could be something that we could look at. As part of the allocation sales tax revenue we would have to include this overage into that number, I think. In the short term I don't see the County of Sonoma paying anymore than are currently paying the \$900,000.

Jason Boaz - Reading the agreement it only goes through the fiscal year 22-23 then I am assuming after that the district will assume all of the charges back themselves.

Mark Heine - That is why we're going to tie it to the sales tax measure. We are looking at some big numbers even the gap numbers with the agencies. The other trouble piece of this is that most of the agencies just finished adopting fiscal year budgets. Where the overages will not be a part of those budgets.

Jason Boaz - Something with the districts says after 22-23 the county will find a way for the county to continue to pay this \$900,000 or are the districts planning on budgeting this back into their budget?

Mark Heine - The county wants to lump with all their accessory Fire Service fees into the sales tax measure. That includes REDCOM fees, LAFCO fees. Lexipol fees, Red Flag upstaffing cost. They want to put all that into one line item expenditure out of the new proposed sales tax measure. I do think that if the sales tax measure passes, that is where the \$113,000 is going to have to come from. If you want to continue as Fire Service to have these fees covered. Otherwise, if we do go back to individual districts it will devastate numbers here.

Jason Boaz - Are there any other options at this point to cover through 21-22 and 22-23? Other than districts absorb these costs on their own. Are there any other way? You're making it clear the county is not going cover this.

Mark Heine - I am certainly happy with my President of Chiefs hat on, go back to Fire AdHoc and share this. I can tell you last week was series of meetings with the Fire AdHoc and several Fire agencies regarding funding and those meetings were not pleasant meetings. I don't see that happening. I am happy to take it back and try. Short of that or REDCOM budget to cover these. I guess it gets to back to the individual agencies. You look at the list of agencies on here and even these gaps may seem small \$3000 probably is pretty big number to Graton fire district right now who just adopted the budget.

Jason Boaz - Can we pull it from something else like PG&E settlement funds?

Steve Akre - I was thinking the same thing Jason.

Mark Heine - We can certainly ask. I am just going off our most recent experience even as this morning dealing with the county on funding issues.

Steve Akre - The one thing I might add is that I have been involved in some of those conversations as well. There did seem to be some possibility of small one-time funding, not ongoing. I think it might be good for us to go through the County Chiefs and District Association because the districts are representing almost everyone on the there. To write a couple of letters and have that conversation with the AdHoc and CAO and see if we can get onetime time funding in a small amount for this year and next year to cover that amount.

Mark Heine - I think that is a great idea Steve. They have offered up they can do discretionary single time funding.

Bryan Cleaver - Mark, I am seeing on the spread sheet you are the most significantly impacted. I am sort of curious about how that impacts actual service delivery, beyond that I am more concerned I guess it is about the 22-23-year budget when we may not have even the \$900,000 is that correct?

Mark Heine - I don't know what their plans can be in the long term. I can tell you they are pushing hard as we develop the proposed distribution plan for the new sales tax measure. They are pushing super hard that all the REDCOM fees the County currently provides come out of the sales tax measure and be dissolved.

Jason Boaz - The current contract goes through the fiscal year 22-23. Would it be a case making up the difference again the \$113,000 plus increases.

Bryan Cleaver - If the sales tax measure succeeds, we are great. If it does not it is 23-24, we run into real problems?

Mark Heine -Yes, I think Steve's idea tap one-time source funding from the county could be successful. I have not thought about it. I think there is a power of the two of us going back to the AdHoc or maybe through Terry Wright and see what we can do.

Steve Akre - I think Terry is a good one to have at least the initial conversation with. She was the one that kind of Identified there might be some opportunity

not on this specific expenditure, but she did bring that up a potentially one-time funding.

Jason Boaz - I would be supportive of that sounds like a good idea and see if you can move the Cities in there to Steve.

Steve Akre - Jason we are working on that.

Jason Boaz - I know you are I just received an email from Dana.

Steve Akre - Good

Mark Heine - The bigger threat down the road is not necessarily the \$113,000 gap. Bryan raised a great question. Is using my line as example can we figure out \$50,000 it would hurt, but we could probably figure that out for fiscal year. If all these agencies end up eventually having to go back and covering fees themselves. \$450,000 some fire stations are going to close they wouldn't have that kind of money. We'll have to work on this for the onetime fee through this extra gap funding and have to be very cautious after the future with our work with the Supervisors to somehow maintaining going forward.

Steve Akre - You both make a very good points. It is going to need to be a very strong correlation if you do not fund dispatch fees for all these districts it will resolve service reductions. That is over a million dollars and theret is no way you could absorb that without reducing services.

Bryan Cleaver - We are supporting CLSD as a Health Care District currently as a member of REDCOM and we always seem to run into the Cloverdale issue. If we are going, I think Cloverdale contribution is relatively small. But if we are going to look for the short-term one-time funding by the Board. Do you think there would be any value in rolling Cloverdale in on that as an attempt to have a complete County wide? Just a thought.

Mark Heine- It is funny you show ask that because we explored that a little bit at this morning's Fire Service Work Group meeting. What we are being told by the folks up there, it is not a matter of whether they want to go to REDCOM or not. They have no radio coverage up there on our channels. That is what they are putting it off. Don't know if that is correct or not.

Bryan Cleaver - Which is weird because KT correct me if I am wrong. And Kenny your weigh on this as well. Even though they have their own dispatch.

doesn't it eventually roll at least on the EMS side to REDCOM at some point for EMD or otherwise. If you don't mind clarifying, I would appreciate it

KT McNulty - No, we are not typically involved in any of the Cloverdale calls unless there is a mutual aid request. The radio shop has done a lot of work to improve that area and they assured me that Control 2 and 4 and REDCOM would be clear up there. However, we have done some testing recently it sounds like there are major patches.

Steve Akre - Great consideration Bryan as far as my memory serves me. Mark or Jason. I know you guys were involved in this early on. It was my understanding anyway. When we went through the Fire Advisory Council when we first worked on dispatch fees. That Cloverdale had the opportunity then to join in and have their fees covered through this initiative. Officially we are at a point where being having a short fall we would need additional funding if Cloverdale were to join. It was my understanding they were included even though they were not a member at that time for at potential funding.

Jason Boaz - That is my recognition as well Steve.

Steve Akre - Thank you Jason.

Steve Akre - Unless there are any other comments or discussion, I think we got our marching orders that through the district Association and Chief Association will reach out to the CAO and Fire AdHoc and see if we can get some one time funding for this coming fiscal year and then the next fiscal year 22-23. What might be helpful and maybe too soon to do this because I know we base this on our 3year average of call volume. KT if you and your team had any sort of number projection what the short fall might be 22-23 that would be very helpful for us in those discussions.

KT McNulty- Ok

Steve Akre- Next Item

- f) Outstanding Verihealth/Falck fees - Discussion and direction on outstanding Verihealth/Falck Dispatch fees for FY 19/20 in the amount of \$12,320.09 and FY 20/21 in the amount of \$47,786.

KT McNulty- I am looking for direction on how we would like to pursue or if we would like to pursue this? It is my thought it is almost \$60,000 that we can recover back into our budget. I would recommend we do pursue. I would like to open it up for discussion.

Bryan Cleaver- We have delt with this on many of occasions throughout the years whether it be public or private or otherwise. That is a number that represents half of the short fall that we just talked about the terms of district contributions. That would take that \$113,000 down to another \$60,000. I, KT personally would like to us go back to TAMBRA's process that she has followed historically when we have partners or members that have not made good on their payments.

KT McNulty- TAMBRA are you on the line

TAMBRA CURTIS- Yes, I am. The good news is it shouldn't take a lot in terms of attorney's fees. All I need to do is change the dates and the amounts and the names. We already have the play book for this. I also think if you let it go it could be construed a gift of public funds. I think you should at least send out a demand letter and hopefully that would get someone's attention.

KT McNulty and Steve Akre - Thank you TAMBRA

JASON BOAZ - I am curious on why this is even an action item. It seemed like it is straight forward.

KT McNulty - Jason I have never delt with this before and felt the most appropriate thing to do place it on the agenda to get the Board's direction.

JASON BOAZ - I do appreciate that. It is always good to be in the loop and have all the information. In my option it is an outstanding invoice, and we should pursue it.

KT McNulty - Sounds good.

TAMBRA CURTIS - KT can you send me the invoices and the information, and I can take care of that for you.

KT McNulty - Thank you

STEVE AKRE - Thank you. Sad but true that you already have the play book as we know so well. I think this differs at least a little bit from the previous experience that I have had working as a AdHoc trying to recover fees. They're no longer receiving any services, and, in the past, we at least had that little bit of a leverage I guess because we were still providing services to other

agencies that have fallen behind. I am in full support of doing everything we can within reason to collect that past due amounts.

Jason Boaz - The fact that they are not receiving services anymore should make it easier in my mind than in the previous. If we don't do that, we are not following the precedence that we set with our other agencies.

Bryan Cleaver - If nothing else we have a moral ethical and legal responsibility to pursue it given the suggestion by Tandra that this could be construed as a gift of public funds and that is one place we don't want to go. Does this need a motion or a direction, Chair?

Steve Akre- I think it just needs direction and I think unless Dave or Dr. Maze or Chief Westrope have difference of opinion I think we are hearing pretty clearly what the direction is.

Dave Crowl - Do we have a trip wire for this collection of funds? Should we set something up that when you are in the rears by a fiscal year that we just automatically send out a letter to try to do this so it doesn't get built up and we are not 2 years trying to recover funds from 2 plus years ago.

Steve Akre - I think that is a great idea Dave. I think that KT acknowledges the first time that she had to deal with this in her tenure. KT I think you are hearing pretty loudly and clearly that the Board is wanting to be very assertive shall I say with anybody that is behind on their contributions. I feel like you have more direction as the Director you have the authority to work with our Counsel with Tandra and put those demand letters out as soon as possible.

KT McNulty - Sounds good. Looks like Bobbi had a comment as well.

Bobbi Rivera - I do send out letters at the end of every fiscal year telling them they have balances from the prior year. I just never received any response from Verihealth. It is pretty rare that this happens. Tandra's letter will get a lot more attention than mine. Not a bad idea I would be happy to follow.

Steve Akre - You are breaking up a bit, Bobbi. I would maybe ask Tandra, what would be a recommended time frame if somebody is past due to send a demand letter.

Tandra Curtis - I would say 60 or 90 days would be ample time and even generous. What happened in the prior matter was that we are up against the status of limitation for some of the monies. The question is whether it is 2 years or 4 years. You don't want to be in a position of making that argument. You

want to try and get these dealt with for sure within the first year. Practically the first couple of months before it gets out of control. I would suggest send out the notice from Bobbi at 60 days and then if you don't hear anything a month after that then contact me.

Steve Akre - KT maybe that is something that we can add to the REDCOM policy manual when it comes to billing practices and if you need to bring that back to the Board for approval. It sounds like the Board is very amenable to approving something like that.

KT McNulty - Ok

Brain Henricksen - I was going to recommend. KT you and I can talk about this offline with Tambra. I want to make sure we have the right contacts. I don't find myself in a position defending Faulk all the time. Being that they did leave county and I don't know if we have the right contacts. Getting those requests to the right place. Let's make sure we are doing that. They might not know.

KT McNulty- Ok

Steve Akre - Thank you Brain. I appreciate that.

Bryan Cleaver - I support this. This is \$60,000 and we may incur some Counsel time. Which that is ok. I would really support the idea of this going towards a more policy driven discussion even if it means we use the BOARD and KT as the director, consults with Tambra to put a formal process in place prohibiting this from happening again. We have gotten dangerously close and Tambra said exceeding that statute of limitations for a substantial amount of funding to the REDCOM JPA. I would support even funding counsel cost to get this policy in place.

KT McNulty - Do you believe it should be its standalone policy or should it be part of the membership agreement?

Steve Akre - That is a good question. I would defer to Tambra on that one.

Tambra Curtis - I think it could be a standalone policy that should be fine.

Steve Akre - Thank you Bryan. I agree. I don't think this is something should be subjective. I think this something that should be that is cleanest as a JPA and looking out for our members. I think having it be a very cut and dry. If somebody is 60 days pass due, they get a demand letter regardless which

agency it is. Hopefully it is not any of us. Even if it is my agency that is 60 days behind you know I would expect to get a demand letter. I think that way we are fair and consistent while looking out for our financial responsibility to all of our members.

Tambra Curtis - Just to let everybody know. The way the JPA is structured if you let this go then other districts have to pick up the cost of that districts cost which they are not responsible for. You just can't have that.

Steve Akre - Absolutely, Thank you Tambra.

KT, Bobbi and Tambra is there anything else you need from the Board to address this both specifically with Verihealth as well as the direction on creating a standalone policy on how to deal with this in the future.

Tambra Curtis - We have direction thank you.

KT McNulty - Thank you.

Bobbi Rivera - Thank you.

Steve Akre - Thank you and all the Board Members for your ideas and robust discussion on this. Closing out New Business moving on to Old Business.

6. Old Business

- a) Marin County dispatch services update – Discussion on Marin County Chiefs' decision regarding partnering with REDCOM. KT McNulty- I don't have a lot of information on this. I just received the letter that Chief Heine forwarded. At this time Marin has elected to start investigating forming their own JPA in Marin. They do wish to continue working with REDCOM on back up and continuity plans. That really is the sum of it. I don't have a lot of information I have not been in contact with them since that letter was issued.

Mark Heine - I did have a conversation Chief Tubb's. He reached out to me before he sent the letter. Their primary foundation is after deeper dive with their county counsel. They do not want to be the SB438 test case. That is really what got them sort of to the point where they can't continue to pursue this option with us and JPA right now. They will take a look at their options on their side of the shop. They are still very interested in future collaborative opportunities together whether that is back up for each other or collaboration.

For right now they are withdrawing from any additional steps in trying to come together.

Bryan Cleaver - Mark sorry to jump in. Would you mind explaining the SB 438-test case comment? I know we have some level of exception at REDCOM and maybe that doesn't play out.

Mark Heine - Speaking a little bit for them, but a third party here. Their concern is this; The concern is that their counsel feels that we are probably on fairly solid ground. If we would expand somehow for them to enter a JPA where they are paying a fee and/or a profit margin coverage they believe would be a violation of the SB438 because there is no court precedent. Not even a superior court case that we are aware of yet with it being so new. They just don't want to be that first.

Tambra Curtis - I will just say I think that is reasonable interpretation of the statute. Again, not clear but that is certainly reasonable. I had a sigh of relieve when I heard the news.

Mark Heine - I was worried about that as well. Only because I was involved in a little bit with the Cal Chiefs work developing SB438. We made some amendments to specifically target around the REDCOM's JPA model and not wanting that bill to exclude what we do currently or potential expansion of other clients into our JPA. Bringing another county is always going be a big stretch. I wasn't even sure we were not going to get met with a strong opposition by California Professional Firefighters or Cal Chiefs.

Jason Boaz - In the theory it still seems like a good idea. The timing is off. Maybe it is something we can put a pin in it and revisit it at another time.

Mark Heine - I think there is still a strong collaborative opportunities there. Steve between the two of us with our different hats we wear. I would want us to keep that relationship strong with both Chief Webber and Chief Tubbs's in particular. Another piece of this to paint the landscape Chief Tubb's will be next year will be coming Cal Chief President. That will be helpful too for future endeavors as well.

Steve Akre - Thank you Mark. Absolutely, agree that this is a prudence step right now a reasonable step. In my conversations with Chief Webber this was no way shape or form anywhere near a hard no for future collaboration. I think their vision is still to work with us down the road and see what we can do collaboratively together to provide the best service to Marin and Sonoma

County. I was really reassured by those conversations. With our place in time right now that it feels like pretty reasonable imprudent position to take and we will certainly keep those conversations not only the door open but those conversations continuing on how we can continue to a partner together in the future.

Steve Akre - Any other comments, questions, or discussions on the Marin county piece? If not, we will move on to item 6B.

Nothing said

b) REDCOM remodel expansion update – Discussion on current progress.

KT McNulty – I was hoping to get this into the packet, but it didn't come in time. I did receive the schematic design for the project as well as the construction cost and. I haven't had opportunity to sit down with the project manager to discuss the plans or the cost yet. We are looking at roughly \$529,00 in construction design, contractor fees, general requirements, insurance bonds and design contingent funds. That is a rough number we haven't sat down to talk about any of the options that have been presented. I am hoping to come back to you guys with a much smaller number. I am continuing to look for a grants or other funding methods to pay for this expansion.

Steve Akre - Thank you KT. Any comments, discussion from the Board Members on this item right now?

Nothing said

7. Next meeting will be – October 14, 2021 at 14:00. Location to be determined based on direction from item 5b.

Steve Akre- As we talk about it in the previous Board Item. KT and her team and Chief Westrope will look to see whether this will be at the Santa Rosa Training Tower or the Admin Conference Room based on technology and capabilities at that point. We will also be taking into consideration where we are at with COVID and Dr. Mase comments. This is a moving target. Well adapted to whatever the current situation is and the best practice and/or health orders are regarding COVID that comes into play as we get closer to October. I know that is 3 months away, so it is a bit of time. We will keep that in mind and adjust accordingly.

8. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn made by Mark Heine, second Dave Crowl – Discussion - No further comments - Approved unanimously.

Steve Akre - Thank you everyone, KT and team, Tandra thank you for being on the call and offering your advice and direction on the legal matters. We'll look forward to seeing everyone on October 14th.